

**PARK BOARD MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2016**

Chair Craig Kittel called the Park Board meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesday, April 27, 2016.

**Members Present:** Craig Kittel, Jon Hailey, Brian Schroeder, Frank Norton, Christine Melby (left 7:20), and Joe Ard (arrived 6:25)

**Members Absent:** Tania Strawn and Student Representative James Elkin

**Others Present:** Jeremiah Wendt, Noah Wiedenfeld, Michael Mroz, and Marie Bannink

Christine Melby moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by Jon Hailey, motion carried.

Brian Schroeder moved to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2016 meeting, with the spelling correction of Park under 2016 Projects, seconded by Craig Kittel, motion carried.

**Public Business Items**

None

**Unfinished Business**

**Skate Park Updates:**

Noah Wiedenfeld updated the board on the fundraising the current donations at \$103,184.24. We are currently waiting for the results from the Otto Bremer Trust; the award could be up to \$20,000.00. Noah asked the group what their thoughts were on getting designs for larger budget. The following options were presented to the board:

- Continue with the existing \$100,000 budget, finalize a design, and begin the construction process in late May.
  - Any additional funds received could go towards final landscaping, a bench or shelter, donor recognition signage, and long-term care
- Wait to find out the results from the Otto Bremer Trust, likely delaying the start of construction
  - If unsuccessful, continue as planned with the \$100,000 budget
  - If successful, these additional funds would set the final budget
- Finalize a design with a \$125,000 budget and begin the construction process in late May
  - If Otto Bremer Trust funds aren't received, the remaining balance would need to come from the Park Trust Fund

Frank Norton moved to get a design for \$100,000 and \$115,000 and get the contract started with Misiano, seconded by Joe Ard, motion carried.

**Freedom Park Construction:**

Jeremiah Wendt reviewed previous projects and funding that had been approved by the Park Board and the City Council. At the last Park Board meeting the VFW may have indicated, based on discussions with the Army Reserve and Jeremiah, the remainder of the trail around

Freedom Park could be completed by the Army Reserve this summer for \$11,000, which is not the case. Discussions with the Army Reserve had centered only on the completion of the access road through Freedom Park, which was approved by Park Board and Council, designed, permitted, and staked for construction in 2015. Somehow, this was not clearly understood through all the lines of communication.

We have clarified the situation with the VFW, and have had multiple meetings with the Army Reserve. Based on my subsequent conversations:

- The VFW's role has been to secure an aggregate base material for the City at a reduced price (\$4.50/ton rather than ~\$6.50/ton)
- The Army Reserve is able to help us on a total of three weekends in May, June and July with any projects that are ready for construction (the only project that we have ready at this stage is the access road through Freedom Park). It is likely that it will take all three weekends for them to complete this project, but we will know more after the May weekend.
- Any other projects in Freedom Park (such as irrigation or trail construction) will require additional approvals from the Park Board and Council, as well as design and staking, prior to construction.
- The only project we have that can be completed at this time is the road

To complete the trail, the first step would be to survey the area, design the trail and stake it out before anyone could start moving dirt. The cost to finish the road is approximately \$11,000.00. Joe Ard rescinded his motion from the previous meeting regarding the \$11,000.00 for the trail at Freedom Park, seconded by Jon Hailey, motion carried.

### **New Business**

#### **Park Plan-Freedom Park:**

There was discussion on amending the Park Plan, this can be done at any time, but June was set for the month to review the plan and make amendments. Motion was made by Joe Ard to amend the following areas to the Park Plan:

- Add irrigation as needed
- Soccer/Football Fields
- Permanent Bathrooms
- Baseball/Softball Fields
- Pavilion
- Parking Lot

seconded by Brian Schroeder, motion carried.

#### **Messes & Masterpieces-Hatfield Park:**

Michael Mroz gave some background information on the project for the tunnel. The DOT approved a mural inside the tunnel telling a story. Christine Melby said they would like to put together small pieces of artwork reflecting Hatfield Park and painting the story in the tunnel. Motion was made by Jon Hailey to approve the mural in the tunnel telling the story of the troll, seconded by Joe Ard, motion carried. Christine will send the verbiage to the members for review.

**Paperjack Bench Memorial:**

Frank Norton updated the board on the wishes from the group that has been fundraising for the memorial bench. Jon Hailey moved to accept the application and the placement of the bench at Paperjack between the shelter & playground, seconded by Brian Schroeder, motion carried.

**Farmers Market at Glover Park:**

Noah Wiedenfeld informed the board on ways to bring more people in to the down town. A farmers market was in the down town study. The Heritage Center has one on Saturday mornings, and Westfield's Hospital has one on Tuesdays. Thursdays are being looked at for the market downtown. There was discussion on the pros & cons on having this at Glover Park or MaRita Park. There would be a registration but no fees collected. Joe Ard moved to have the Farmers Market be located at MaRita Park allowing fresh produce, anything vegetation and bake goods seconded by, Frank Norton, motion carried.

**Inspection & Park Land Trust Report:**

**Inspection Reports** – Joe & Craig stated their parks were good.

**Park Land Trust Fund - \$116,784.94**

Funds that can be spent are Park Land Dedication Fund, Hatfield Campground, Freedom Park Farm Lease, these funds are non restrictive. It was suggested if the funds from the Youth Soccer and Football are not going to be received, we should take them off the list.

**Impact Fees Fund - \$17,698.35**

These funds are restrictive and need to be used on new park projects.

**Announcements:**

Craig Kittel stated if anyone has items for the agenda contact him or staff.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. We will plan on visiting three parks prior to the meeting.

Frank Norton moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Joe Ard, motion carried.

The meeting of the Park Board was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by  
Marie Bannink  
City Secretary